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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES*

(covering its work during 1992)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohammad Najdat SHAHEED (Syrian Arab Republic)

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* This document contains chapters I and II of the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly. Other chapters of the report have been issued separately in documents A/47/23 (Parts II to VII). The complete report will be issued subsequently as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/47/23).

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

31 August 1992

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report to the General Assembly of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/71 of 11 December 1991. This report covers the work of the Special Committee during 1992.

(Signed) Renagi Renagi LOHIA
Chairman of the Special Committee
on the Situation with regard to
the Implementation of the Declaration
on the Granting of Independence to
Colonial Countries and Peoples

His Excellency Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

CHAPTER I

ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

A. Establishment of the Special Committee

1. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was established by the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961. The Committee was requested to examine the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration.

2. At its seventeenth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 1/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 1810 (XVII) of 17 December 1962, by which it enlarged the Special Committee with the addition of seven new members. It invited the Committee "to continue to seek the most suitable ways and means for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories which have not yet attained independence".

3. At the same session, by its resolution 1805 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 on the question of South West Africa, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to discharge, mutatis mutandis, the tasks assigned to the Special Committee for South West Africa by resolution 1702 (XVI) of 19 December 1961. By its resolution 1806 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, the Assembly decided to dissolve the Special Committee for South West Africa.

4. By resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, adopted at its eighteenth session, the General Assembly decided to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. It also requested the Committee to take that information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to undertake any special study and prepare any special report it might consider necessary.

5. At the same session and at each subsequent session, the General Assembly, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 2/ has adopted a resolution renewing the mandate of the Committee.

6. On the occasion of the tenth, twentieth, twenty-fifth and thirtieth anniversaries of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the General Assembly, by approving the related reports of the Special Committee, adopted resolutions 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, 35/118 of 11 December 1980, 40/56 of 2 December 1985 and 45/33 of 20 November 1990, containing a series of recommendations with a view to facilitating the speedy implementation of the Declaration.

7. At its forty-sixth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 3/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 46/71 of 11 December 1991, by which it, inter alia:

"5. Approves the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1991, including the programme of work envisaged for 1992; 4/

"...

"12. Requests the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet attained independence and, in particular:

"(a) To formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

"(b) To make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security;

"(c) To continue to examine the compliance of Member States with resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

"(d) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

"(e) To take all necessary steps to enlist world-wide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

"13. Also calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to receive visiting missions to the Territories to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants;

14. Further calls upon the administering Powers that have not participated in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its 1992 session;".

8. At the same session, the General Assembly, by adopting resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsed as a Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the proposals contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1). The Plan, inter alia, contained the following provisions:

"22. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, with the cooperation of the administering Powers, should:

"(a) Prepare periodic analyses of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in each Territory;

"(b) Review the impact of the economic and social situation on the constitutional and political advancement of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

"(c) Organize during the Decade seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions alternately, as well as at United Nations Headquarters, to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of action, with the participation of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, their elected representatives, the administering Powers, Member States, regional organizations, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts.

"23. The Special Committee should continue to seek, as a matter of priority, the full cooperation of administering Powers with regard to the dispatch of United Nations visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

"24. The Special Committee, with the cooperation of the Administering Powers, should make every effort to facilitate and encourage the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional and international organizations, as well as in the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the Special Committee itself and other United Nations decolonization bodies."

9. At the same session, the General Assembly also adopted 10 other resolutions, 2 consensuses and 4 decisions relating to specific Territories or other items on the agenda of the Special Committee, as well as a number of other resolutions relevant to the work of the Committee, by which the Assembly entrusted the Committee with specific tasks in relation to these Territories and items. These decisions are listed below.

1. Resolutions, consensuses and decisions concerning specific Territories

Resolutions

Territory	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Western Sahara	46/67	11 December 1991
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands	46/68 A and B	11 December 1991

Territory	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
New Caledonia	46/69	11 December 1991

Consensuses

Territory	Decision No.	Date of adoption
Gibraltar	46/420	11 December 1991
Pitcairn	46/421	11 December 1991

Decisions

Territory	Decision No.	Date of adoption
East Timor	46/402	20 September 1991
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	46/406	13 November 1991
St. Helena	46/422	11 December 1991

2. Resolutions concerning other items

Item	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	46/63	11 December 1991
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa	46/64	11 December 1991
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	46/65	11 December 1991
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	46/66	11 December 1991

Item	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Cooperation and coordination of specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in their assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories	46/70	11 December 1991
Dissemination of information on decolonization	46/72	11 December 1991

3. Decision concerning other questions

Question	Decision No.	Date of adoption
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	46/419	11 December 1991

10. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1991, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, 5/ decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of East Timor" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session (decision 46/402).

11. At its 45th plenary meeting, on 13 November 1991, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session (decision 46/406).

4. Other resolutions and decisions relevant to the work of the Special Committee

12. Other resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session which were relevant to the work of the Special Committee and which were taken into consideration by the Special Committee are listed in a note by the Secretary-General on the Committee's organization of work (A/AC.109/L.1774 and Add.1).

13. Prior to the adoption of resolutions 46/71, by which the General Assembly approved the proposals contained in the report of the Special Committee regarding the Committee's proposed programme of work for 1992, and 46/72 of 11 December 1991 concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, the Assembly had before it the report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the recommendations contained in the draft resolutions (A/46/762). Consideration of this matter by the Fifth Committee was based on the related statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/46/57) and the oral statement by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (see A/C.5/46/SR.46).

5. Membership of the Special Committee

14. In a letter dated 17 October 1991 addressed to the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee, the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations informed him of the decision of the Government of Norway to withdraw from the membership of the Special Committee effective 1 January 1992 (A/AC.109/1096).

15. As at 1 January 1992, the Special Committee was composed of the following 24 members:

Afghanistan	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Bulgaria	Iraq
Chile	Mali
China	Papua New Guinea
Congo	Russian Federation
Côte d'Ivoire	Sierra Leone
Cuba	Syrian Arab Republic
Czechoslovakia	Trinidad and Tobago
Ethiopia	Tunisia
Fiji	United Republic of Tanzania
India	Venezuela
Indonesia	Yugoslavia

A list of representatives who attended the meetings of the Special Committee in 1992 appears in documents A/AC.109/INF/30 and Add.1.

16. At the 1402nd meeting of the Special Committee, on 20 July, the Chairman informed the members that the delegation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had expressed the wish to participate in the Committee's summer session. The Committee decided to accede to the request. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya participated in the work of the Committee as an observer at the 1402nd to 1411th meetings, from 20 July to 7 August.

B. Opening of the Special Committee's meetings in 1992 and election of officers

17. The Secretary-General addressed the Special Committee at its opening (1398th) meeting, on 5 February 1992. The Chairman made a statement at the same meeting (A/AC.109/PV.1398).

18. Also at the same meeting, the Special Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Renagi Renagi Lohia (Papua New Guinea)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Ricardo Alarcón de Quesada (Cuba)
Mr. Andrew G. Bangali (Sierra Leone)
Mr. Alexander Slabý (Czechoslovakia)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mohammad Najdat Shaheed (Syrian Arab Republic)

C. Organization of work

19. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February 1992, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to maintain its Working Group, which would continue to function as a steering committee, and the newly merged Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, formerly the Subcommittee on Small Territories and the Subcommittee on Petitions, Information and Assistance.

20. By adopting the Chairman's suggestions referred to above, the Special Committee also requested its Subcommittee to meet as soon as possible to organize its programme of work for the year and, in addition to considering the items indicated in paragraph 21, to carry out the specific tasks assigned to the Committee by the General Assembly concerning the items referred to them.

21. The Special Committee further decided to adopt the suggestions of the Chairman relating to the allocation of items and the procedure for their consideration (A/AC.109/L.1775, paras. 3 and 4).

22. At its 1411th meeting, on 7 August, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the ninety-ninth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1), the Special Committee took further decisions relating to its organization of work.

Representation of the Special Committee

23. The Special Committee was invited to the following conferences and meetings:

(a) The fifty-seventh ordinary session of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, in February (see para. 98);

(b) A solemn meeting of the Special Committee against Apartheid in observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, held in New York, in March (see para. 91);

(c) Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Bali, in May (see para. 96);

(d) Twenty-second regular session of the Organization of American States, held in the Bahamas, in May (see para. 99);

(e) The fifty-eighth ordinary session of the OAU Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, held at Dakar, in June (see para. 98);

(f) South Pacific Forum Meeting of Heads of State or Government, held at Honiara, in July (see para 100);

(g) The Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta, in September (see para. 95).

D. Meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies

24. In keeping with its resolve to continue taking all possible measures to rationalize the organization of its work, and with the full and close cooperation of its entire membership, the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies were again able to keep to a minimum the number of their formal meetings, as indicated below, by holding whenever possible informal meetings and extensive consultations through Committee officers.

1. Special Committee

25. The Special Committee held 14 meetings at Headquarters during 1992, as follows:

First part of the session:

1398th to 1401st meetings, from 5 February to 1 June;

Second part of the session:

1402nd to 1411th meetings, from 20 July to 7 August.

26. During the session, the Special Committee considered in plenary meetings the following questions and adopted decisions thereon, as indicated below:

Question	Meetings	Decision
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Pitcairn, St. Helena	1401-1403, 1407, 1408	A/47/23 (Part VI), chap. X, paras. 23 and 24
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	1401, 1403, 1407	A/47/23 (Part IV), chap. VIII, para. 9
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories	1401, 1403, 1407	A/47/23 (Part II), chap. IV, para. 17
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	1401, 1403, 1407, 1408, 1411	A/47/23 (Part IV), chap. VII, para. 14

Question	Meetings	Decision
Activities of those foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa	1401, 1403, 1406-1408, 1411	A/47/23 (Part III), chap. V, para. 14
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	1401, 1403, 1408, 1411	A/47/23 (Part III), chap. VI, para. 11
East Timor	1403-1406	A/47/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 11
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	1405, 1408	A/47/23 (Part VII), chap. XI, para. 12
Gibraltar	1406	A/47/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 16
New Caledonia	1403, 1406-1409	A/47/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 26
Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico	1406, 1407, 1409, 1410	A/47/23 (Part I), chap. I, para. 50
Western Sahara	1403, 1407, 1408	A/47/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 30

27. The Special Committee considered the items allocated to its subsidiary bodies on the basis of the reports of the respective bodies (see paras. 29, 38, 39 and 44) and adopted decisions as indicated below.

2. Subsidiary bodies

(a) Working Group

28. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain its Working Group. At its 1399th meeting, on 4 March, the Chairman informed the Committee of the receipt of a communication dated 11 February 1992 from the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago requesting that it be invited to participate in the Working Group. The Committee acceded to the request. The composition of the Working Group was therefore as follows: Congo, Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran and Trinidad and Tobago, together with

the five officers of the Committee, namely, the Chairman (Papua New Guinea), the three Vice-Chairmen (Cuba, Sierra Leone and Czechoslovakia) and the Rapporteur (Syrian Arab Republic), as well as the Chairman (Tunisia) of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

29. During the period covered by the present report, the Working Group held one meeting, as well as a number of unofficial meetings, and submitted a report (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1).

(b) Open-ended Working Group established at the 1398th meeting, on 5 February 1992

30. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February 1992, the Special Committee decided to establish an open-ended working group with the responsibility of making recommendations on how to improve further the efficiency of its work in the light of recent developments and bearing in mind all suggestions made in the Fourth Committee and at plenary meetings of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

31. At its 1399th and 1400th meetings, on 4 and 17 March 1992, respectively, the Special Committee held further discussions on the open-ended Working Group and decided, as regards its composition, that any member of the Committee as well as any State Member of the United Nations could participate in the deliberations of the Working Group. Administering Powers, in particular, as well as representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories, were encouraged to participate.

32. At its 1400th meeting, the Special Committee approved the mandate of the Working Group, which was to review issues such as:

(a) Revitalization of the Special Committee in conformity with the objectives set forth by the General Assembly in the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (A/46/634/Rev.1 of 13 December 1991, annex);

(b) Streamlining and consolidating of resolutions and other documents issued by the Special Committee, as well as their language;

(c) Review of the method of work of the Committee, its agenda and list of Territories;

(d) Cooperation of the administering Powers, bearing in mind the statement of the Secretary-General to the organizational meeting of the Committee, held on 5 February 1992 (A/AC.109/PV.1398), and, in this connection:

(i) How best to secure their full participation in the work of the Committee;

(ii) How to restore the practice of regular visiting missions to which the Committee attaches the highest importance as a means of obtaining first-hand information on the situation in the Non-Self-Governing and other Territories within the purview of the mandate of the Committee;

(iii) How to ensure that the administering Powers provide the Committee with regular, timely and up-to-date information on the Territories under their administration, in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations;

(iv) The related issue of how to obtain greater participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing and other Territories within the purview of the mandate of the Committee in the work of the Committee.

33. The Working Group held a total of nine informal meetings between 18 March and 28 May 1992. At its 1st meeting, on 18 March, the Working Group decided that its consideration of the issues at stake should start from the work already completed by the Working Group in 1991 (A/AC.109/L.1756) while following closely its mandate as indicated in the terms of reference approved by the Committee. Each of the issues listed in its terms of reference was discussed extensively. A representative of New Zealand, as an administering Power, as well as a representative of the Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, participated in the deliberations of the Working Group.

34. At its 1399th meeting, on 4 March, the Special Committee considered the mandate of the open-ended Working Group. Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba and Mali and by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.1399).

35. At the 1400th meeting, on 17 March, the Chairman drew attention to addendum 2 to aide-mémoire 2/92 containing the comments and proposals received from members of the Special Committee on the proposed terms of reference for the open-ended Working Group.

36. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, Papua New Guinea, Mali, Czechoslovakia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and New Zealand (administering Power), as well as by the Chairman, the Committee adopted the proposed terms of reference for the open-ended Working Group, as orally amended (see para. 32).

37. Also at the same meeting, on the proposal of the representative of the Congo, the Special Committee unanimously elected Mr. Renagi Renagi Lohia (Papua New Guinea), Chairman of the Committee, as the Chairman of the open-ended Working Group.

38. At the 1401st meeting, on 1 June, the Chairman drew attention to the report of the open-ended Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1776). A statement was made by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.1401).

39. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of Venezuela, Mali, the United Republic of Tanzania and China, as well as by the Secretary of the Committee, the Committee adopted the report of the open-ended Working Group without objection. Statements were made by the representatives of Czechoslovakia, the Russian Federation and the United Republic of Tanzania, as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.1401). The conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group are contained in its report (A/AC.109/L.1776).

(c) Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance

40. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain the newly merged Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, formerly the Subcommittee on Small Territories and the Subcommittee on Petitions, Information and Assistance.

41. At its 1399th meeting, on 4 March, the Special Committee decided that the membership of the Subcommittee would consist of all 24 members of the Committee.

42. At the same meeting, the Special Committee elected Mr. Amor Ardhaoui (Tunisia) as Chairman of the Subcommittee.

43. On 16 April, the Chairman of the Special Committee informed the members of the Committee that, on the basis of related consultations, the Subcommittee, at its 639th meeting, on 14 April, elected Mr. Hossein Lotfi Hormozabadi (Islamic Republic of Iran) as Rapporteur (aide-mémoire 5/92).

44. The Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance held 17 meetings, as well as a number of unofficial meetings, between 14 April and 30 June and submitted the following five reports which were subsequently considered by the Special Committee at its 1402nd, 1407th and 1408th meetings between 20 and 29 July:

(a) Pitcairn (A/AC.109/L.1777);

(b) St. Helena (A/AC.109/L.1778);

(c) American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/L.1779);

(d) Question of dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/L.1780);

(e) Examination of petitions (A/AC.109/L.1782).

45. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the reports of the Subcommittee relating to the above-mentioned Territories is contained in chapter X of the present report (A/47/23 (Part VI)).

E. Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable

46. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to allocate the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable to the Working Group as appropriate. In taking that decision, the Committee recalled that, in its report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, 6/ it had stated that, subject to any directives that the Assembly might wish to give in that connection, it would continue, as part of its

programme of work for 1992, to review the list of Territories to which the Declaration applied. The Committee further recalled that, by paragraph 5 of resolution 46/71, the Assembly had approved the report of the Committee, including the programme of work envisaged by the Committee for 1992.

47. At its 1411th meeting, on 7 August, the Special Committee considered the question on the basis of the recommendations contained in the ninety-ninth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1). The relevant paragraph of that report reads as follows:

> "9. The Working Group decided to recommend that the Special Committee should continue consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might give at its forty-seventh session."

48. At the same meeting, the Special Committee approved without objection the above-mentioned recommendations.

Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico 7/

49. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as appropriate an item entitled "Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico" and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

50. At its 1401st meeting, on 1 June, however, by adopting the report of the open-ended Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1776), the Special Committee endorsed the Working Group's recommendation that the Committee defer consideration of the above item until 1993 and its suggestion that requests for hearings be given due consideration by the Committee on the basis of its usual practice.

51. At the 1409th meeting, on 30 July, the Chairman drew attention to the report of the Rapporteur (A/AC.109/L.1788) on the item.

52. At the 1406th, 1407th and 1409th meetings, between 28 and 30 July, the Chairman drew attention to a number of communications received from organizations expressing the wish to be heard on Puerto Rico by the Special Committee. On the basis of the decision it had taken at its 1401st meeting, the Committee agreed to accede to those requests and heard the representatives of the organizations concerned as indicated below:

Representatives of organizations	Meeting
Mr. José Sagardía Pérez, Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico	1409th
Ms. Brunilda Ferrer Silva, on behalf of Respetable Logia Femenina Juliade Burgos	1409th
Ms. Marie Elaine Aloise, Comité Cagueño Pro-Estadidad	1409th

Representatives of organizations	Meeting
Mr. Fernando Martín García, Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño	1409th
Ms. Mariane Múniz, on behalf of Ciudadanos Estadistas Pro-Estado 51	1409th
Mr. Michael Deutsch, on behalf of Ofensiva '92	1409th
Ms. Maria Lizardi, on behalf of United Statehooders Organization	1409th
Dr. Olaguibeet A. López-Pacheco, Supremo Consejo del Grado 33, Puerto Rico, Inc.	1409th
Ms. Linda Backiel, on behalf of Center for Constitutional Rights/Instituto Puertorriqueño de Derechos Civiles	1409th
Ms. Minerva González, on behalf of Comité de Afirmación Puertorriqueña	1409th
Mr. Ronald Fernández, Justice for Puerto Rico	1409th
Mr. J. A. González-González, on behalf of Fundación Andrés Figueroa Cordero, Inc.	1409th
Mr. Carlos Gallisá, Puerto Rican Socialist Party	1409th
Mr. René Torres Platet, on behalf of Gran Oriente Interamericano de Puerto Rico	1409th
Mr. Martin Koppel, Socialist Workers Party	1410th
Mrs. Elsie Valdés Ramos, Unidos ante la Incertidumbre del Status	1410th
Ms. Gloria Ortiz Viera, Puertorriqueños Pro-Estadidad, Inc.	1410th
Ms. Ana M. Lopez, National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War and Political Prisoners	1410th
Mr. Rafael Soltero Peralta, Gran Logia Nacional de Puerto Rico	1410th

F. Consideration of other matters

1. Matters relating to the small Territories

53. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to include in its agenda for the current session an item entitled "Matters relating to the small Territories" and to consider it at its plenary meetings and at meetings

of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

54. In taking these decisions, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 46/71, by paragraph 12 (d) of which the Assembly requested the Committee "to continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence".

55. During the year, the Special Committee and its Subcommittee gave extensive consideration to all phases of the situation obtaining in the small Territories (see chaps. IX-XI of the present report, A/47/23 (Parts V-VII)).

2. Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization

56. At its 1398th meeting, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to consider the above item at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

57. The Special Committee and its Subcommittee accordingly took that decision into account in their consideration of specific items.

3. Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters

58. At its 1398th meeting, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters as appropriate and to refer it to its Working Group for consideration and recommendations.

59. Having regard to its programme of work for 1993, the Special Committee, at its 1411th meeting, on 7 August, considered the question of holding meetings away from Headquarters, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961 and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, by which the Assembly authorized the Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions. Also at its 1411th meeting, by approving the recommendations contained in the ninety-ninth report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1), the Committee decided, inter alia, that it was not necessary at that time for the Special Committee to consider holding meetings away from Headquarters.

4. Pattern of conferences

60. At its 1398th meeting, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as appropriate an item entitled "Pattern of conferences" and to refer it to its Working Group for consideration and recommendations. In so doing, the Committee was conscious of the fact that it had initiated some important measures in rationalizing its work methods, many of which were subsequently incorporated in a number of resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly. Further recalling the measures it had taken heretofore in that connection, the Committee decided to continue to exercise its initiatives in the effective utilization of the limited conference resources and the further reduction of its documentation requirements.

61. During the year, the Committee also continued the practice of circulating communications and information material, as far as possible, in the form of informal notes and aides-mémoire in the original language of submission, thus curtailing documentation requirements by some 2,500 pages and accruing considerable savings for the Organization. A list of the official documents issued by the Committee during 1992 is contained in the annex to the present chapter.

62. At its 1411th meeting, the Special Committee considered the item on the basis of the recommendations contained in the ninety-ninth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1). The relevant paragraphs of that report read as follows:

> "5. The Working Group noted that, during the year, the Special Committee had closely followed the guidelines set forth in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the pattern of conferences, in particular resolution 46/190 of 20 December 1991. By organizing its programme of work effectively and by holding extensive consultations and working in informal session, the Committee had been able to curtail considerably the number of its formal meetings. The Working Group recommended that the Special Committee should continue to pursue its efforts to rationalize the use of the conference-servicing resources and to avoid as far as possible last-minute cancellation of scheduled meetings.
>
> "6. The Working Group decided to recommend that, taking into account the probable workload of the Special Committee for 1993, the Committee should consider holding its meetings according to the following schedule:
>
> (a) Plenary
>
> | | |
> |---|---|
> | February/June | As required |
> | July | 20 meetings (6 to 8 meetings a week) |
>
> (b) Subsidiary bodies
>
> | | |
> |---|---|
> | March/June | 30 meetings (3 to 5 meetings a week) |

"7. It was understood that that programme would not preclude the holding of any ad hoc meetings that might be warranted and that the Special Committee might, in early 1993, review the scheduled meetings on the basis of new developments that might arise. The Working Group recommended that, subject to any directives given by the General Assembly, the Special Committee, while fulfiling its mandate, should strive to keep its meetings to a minimum."

63. At the same meeting, the Special Committee approved without objection the above-mentioned recommendations.

5. Control and limitation of documentation

64. Also at its 1398th meeting, the Special Committee considered the above item on the basis of recommendations contained in the ninety-ninth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1). The relevant paragraph of that report reads as follows:

"8. The Working Group noted that, during the year, the Special Committee had taken further measures to control and limit its documentation in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 34/50 of 23 November 1979 and 39/68 of 13 December 1984. Those measures included the circulation of its documents in provisional or unofficial form whenever appropriate. The Working Group recommended that, consistent with the goal of limiting documentation, the Special Committee should streamline its report to the General Assembly."

65. At the same meeting, the Special Committee approved without objection the above-mentioned recommendation.

6. Cooperation and participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee

66. In compliance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the delegations of New Zealand and Portugal, as representatives of administering Powers concerned, continued to participate, in accordance with established procedure, in the related work of the Special Committee as reflected in chapters IX and X of the present report (A/47/23 (Parts V and VI)).

67. The delegations of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America did not participate in the work of the Committee. 8/

68. In a letter dated 4 February 1992, addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/47/86), the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations stated the following:

"The United States, as an administering Power, recognizes its responsibilities under Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations and will continue to fulfil those responsibilities. In this era of a

new-found spirit of cooperation in the United Nations, the United States has been willing to continue to cooperate with the decolonization committees in the United Nations so long as it has been clear that the committees are adopting a more constructive approach. As the number of remaining non-self-governing territories diminishes, it is increasingly important that United Nations decolonization committees pay more attention to those territories' particular evolution towards self-government.

"...

"... the United States has decided after careful thought to suspend its cooperation with the Special Committee until it takes the steps needed to bring its work in line with the current focus and spirit of the United Nations. ..."

69. In its report (A/AC.109/L.1779), the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance noted with regret that the United Kingdom and the United States, the administering Powers for the majority of Non-Self-Governing Territories, did not participate in its deliberations. In that connection, and in view of the efforts deployed by the Special Committee to streamline and rationalize its work, the Subcommittee appealed to the United Kingdom and the United States to reconsider their position and to resume their participation in the work of the Special Committee.

70. In a related context, the Special Committee, at its 1407th meeting, on 28 July, adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1784 on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories as resolution A/AC.109/1131. By this resolution the Committee called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by receiving United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration and continued to call upon those administering Powers that were not participating in the work of the Special Committee to reconsider their decisions and to take an active part in the work of the Committee (see chap. IV, para. 17, of the present report, A/47/23 (Part II)).

7. Participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee

71. Once again, the Special Committee discussed extensively the question of the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in its work at Headquarters. In that connection, the Committee considered the recommendations made in that respect in the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. The Committee also had before it the related recommendations of its Working Groups (A/AC.109/L.1776 and A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1).

72. The Special Committee noted, in particular, that the General Assembly, in approving its resolution 46/71 of 11 December 1991 relating to the programme of work of the Special Committee for the year 1992 and its resolution 46/181 on the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, had before it the programme budget implications of those resolutions contained in documents A/C.5/46/57 and A/C.5/46/80, respectively.

It noted further that the above documents made provision for the funding of the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee at Headquarters.

73. In order to determine clearly the circumstances under which the Special Committee may recommend funding by the United Nations of the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Committee's work at Headquarters, the Special Committee, at its 1411th meeting, on 7 August, adopted a set of recommendations entitled "Guidelines for funding the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples at United Nations Headquarters", which outlined the procedures to be followed on the matter (A/AC.109/L.1791, annex).

8. Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories, as well as Those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights

74. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2911 (XXVII) of 2 November 1972, by paragraph 2 of which the Assembly recommended that, "on the occasion of the Week, meetings should be held, appropriate materials should be published in the press and broadcast on radio and television and public campaigns should be conducted with a view to obtaining contributions to the Assistance Fund for the Struggle against Colonialism and Apartheid established by the Organization of African Unity", and as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance relating to the question of dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/L.1780), the Subcommittee held consultations with the representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, at its 646th meeting, on 19 May and at its 652nd meeting, on 9 June, respectively (see chap. III, para. 8, of the present report, A/47/23 (Part II)).

9. Representation at seminars, meetings and conferences of intergovernmental and other organizations

75. At its 1411th meeting, the Special Committee considered the following recommendation of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1):

> "4. The Working Group proposed that the Special Committee recommend to the General Assembly that the Committee should continue to be represented at seminars, meetings and conferences organized by United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization and recommended that the Assembly should make appropriate budgetary provisions to cover such activities in 1993."

76. At the same meeting, the Special Committee approved without objection the above-mentioned recommendation.

10. International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

77. At its 1398th meeting, the Special Committee, mindful of the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and by approving the recommendation of its Chairman on the Committee's organization of work for the year, decided to allocate to the Working Group and plenary meetings of the Committee an item entitled "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism".

78. At its 1411th meeting, the Special Committee considered the item on the basis of the recommendations contained in the ninety-eighth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1). The relevant paragraphs of that report reads as follows:

> "10. The Working Group noted with satisfaction that the regional seminar held in Grenada from 17 to 19 June 1992, the first important activity carried out by the Special Committee within the context of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, was a full success. The Working Group decided to recommend to the Committee that the conclusions and recommendations of that seminar should be taken into account in its consideration of the situation in the Caribbean Territories.
>
> "11. Noting that the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism 1/ provided for the holding of seminars in the Caribbean and the Pacific regions, alternately, the Working Group decided to recommend that the Special Committee should organize in 1993 a regional seminar in the Pacific region to consider, in particular, issues relating to the situation in the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories of that region.
>
> "12. The Working Group further decided to recommend that the Special Committee should invite United Nations organs, agencies and institutions to apprise the Secretary-General of actions they had taken in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991 relating to the Plan of Action."

"1/ See A/46/634/Rev.1.

79. At the same meeting, the Special Committee approved without objection the above-mentioned recommendations.

11. Report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly

80. At its 1398th meeting, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1775) and in accordance with paragraph 31 of General Assembly decision 34/401 relating to rationalization of the procedures and organization of the Assembly, the Special Committee decided to follow the procedure adopted at its 1991 session 9/ in connection with the formulation of its recommendations to the Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

81. At its 1407th meeting, the Special Committee decided to authorize its Rapporteur to prepare and submit directly to the General Assembly the various chapters of the report of the Committee in accordance with established practice and procedure.

12. Other questions

82. At its 1398th meeting, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided to request the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in its examination of specific Territories, to take into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions and decisions listed in the note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/L.1774, para. 15 and A/AC.109/L.1774/Add.1, para. 16).

83. This decision was taken into account during the consideration of specific Territories and other items at both subcommittee and plenary meetings.

G. Relations with United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

1. Security Council

84. In paragraph 12 (b) of its resolution 46/71 of 11 December 1991, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security".

85. The Special Committee, on 19 August 1992, drew the attention of the Security Council to the relevant paragraph of a decision adopted at its 1411th meeting, on 7 August, concerning military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. 10/ An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is set out in chapter VI of the present report (A/47/23 (Part III)).

2. Trusteeship Council

86. During the year, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the work of the Trusteeship Council relating to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

3. Economic and Social Council

87. In connection with the Special Committee's consideration of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, and in accordance with paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 46/65 of 11 December 1991, relating to that item, consultations were held during the year between the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chairman of the Committee to consider "appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies ... in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly". Further, the Chairman of the Special Committee participated in the Council's consideration of the related item. An account of the foregoing, and of the Committee's consideration of the item, is set out in chapter VII of the present report (A/47/23 (Part IV)).

4. Commission on Human Rights

88. During the year, the Special Committee followed closely the work of the Commission on Human Rights in regard to the question of the right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation, and to the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and Territories.

89. In its consideration of the Territories concerned, the Special Committee took into account the relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, including resolutions 1992/6, 1992/8, 1992/10, 1992/11, 1992/13 and 1992/14 of 21 February 1992; 1992/18 to 1992/20 and 1992/37 of 28 February 1992; 1992/44 and 1992/45 of 3 March 1992; and 1992/66 of 4 March 1992 on the work of its Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as well as the Subcommission's report. 11/ The Committee also took into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 46/79 A-F of 13 December 1991, 46/83-46/89, 46/95, 46/96, 46/98, 46/102 and 46/103 of 16 December 1991, 46/113, 46/116, 46/117, 46/121, 46/123, 46/128, 46/130, 46/137 and 46/140 of 17 December 1991.

5. Special Committee against Apartheid

90. Bearing in mind the repercussions of the policies of apartheid on the situation in southern Africa, the Special Committee also continued to pay close attention during the year to the work of the Special Committee against Apartheid, and the officers of the two Committees remained in close communication as regards matters of common interest.

91. The Chairman made a statement on behalf of the Special Committee on 20 March at a solemn meeting organized by the Special Committee against Apartheid in New York in observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/AC.115/PV.656).

6. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

92. During the year, having regard to the relevant provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Special Committee continued to follow the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (see para. 103).

7. Specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

93. In accordance with the requests contained in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the Special Committee continued its consideration of the question of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In the same context, the Committee, held consultations during the year with officials of several organizations. An account of these consultations and of the Committee's consideration of the question is set out in chapter VII of the present report (A/47/23 (Part IV)).

94. During the year, the Special Committee adopted decisions relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. These decisions are reflected in chapters VII and X of the present report (A/47/23 (Parts IV and VI)).

8. Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

95. The Chairman of the Special Committee represented the Committee at the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta from 1 to 6 September 1992.

96. In response to an invitation for the Special Committee to be represented at the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Bali, on 14 and 15 May, the Chairman sent a message on behalf of the Committee.

9. Organization of African Unity

97. Bearing in mind its earlier decision to maintain contact with OAU on a regular basis in order to assist in the effective discharge of its mandate, the Special Committee, as in previous years, followed closely the work of that organization during the year and maintained close liaison with its General Secretariat on matters of common interest.

98. In response to invitations for the Special Committee to be represented at the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth ordinary sessions of the OAU Coordinating

Committee for the Liberation of Africa, held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 19 and 20 February, and at Dakar on 19 and 20 June, respectively, the Chairman sent messages on behalf of the Committee.

10. Organization of American States

99. In response to an invitation, the Chairman represented the Special Committee at the twenty-second regular session of the Organization of American States, held on Paradise Island, the Bahamas, from 18 to 23 May 1992.

11. South Pacific Forum

100. In response to an invitation for the Special Committee to be represented at the South Pacific Forum Meeting of Heads of State or Government, held at Honiara, on 8 and 9 July, the Chairman sent a message on behalf of the Committee.

12. Non-governmental organizations

101. Having regard to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 46/71 and 46/72 of 11 December 1991, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the activities of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization. The related decisions of the Committee are reflected in chapter III of the present report (A/47/23 (Part II)).

H. Action relating to international conventions/studies/programmes

1. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 12/

102. At its 1398th meeting, on 5 February 1992, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1775), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to include in its agenda for the current session an item entitled "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" and to consider it at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in its examination of specific Territories.

103. The Special Committee continued during the year to monitor related developments in Territories, having regard to the relevant provisions of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

2. Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid

104. The Special Committee continued during the year to take into account the provisions of relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolution 46/84 of 16 December 1991 in connection with its consideration of the related items and invited its Chairman to continue to extend all possible assistance to, and cooperate closely with, the Secretary-General in the discharge of the mandate entrusted to him by the Assembly in relation to the "Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid".

3. Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

105. The Special Committee continued to take into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned relating to the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, including in particular General Assembly resolution 46/85 of 16 December 1991 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/13 of 30 July 1992 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, as well as the relevant report of the Secretary-General. 13/

106. During the year, the Special Committee, in a related context, took into account the relevant provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/8 of 21 February 1992 concerning the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

I. Review of work

107. As noted elsewhere in the current report, the reform processes initiated by the Special Committee in 1991, which brought about a number of changes and improvement in its approach, methods and procedures, were pursued in 1992 with the assistance of an open-ended Working Group established by the Committee at its 1398th meeting, on 5 February 1992. The measures adopted by the Committee in 1991 included the streamlining and consolidation of a number of its resolutions. As in 1991, the Committee's recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on 10 Territories were consolidated into a single resolution (chap. X, paras. 24 and 25 of the present report (A/47/23 (Part VI)). (See also A/AC.109/1129.)

108. The Committee also reviewed carefully its resolutions on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories (A/AC.109/1131), information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (A/AC.109/1130), implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/AC.109/1134), activities of foreign economic and other interests (A/AC.109/1135), as well as military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration (A/AC.109/1136), and made adjustments where appropriate.

109. As reported in chapter II of the present report, the Special Committee held a regional seminar in Grenada in implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991.

110. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly, the Special Committee continued during its 1992 session to seek suitable means for the implementation of Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in all Territories to which the Declaration is applicable and formulated specific proposals and recommendations in that regard.

111. On the question of the publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, the Special Committee endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of its Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance as reported in chapter III of the present report (A/47/23 (Part II)).

112. During the year, the Special Committee also continued its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable. As regards Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico, the Committee decided to defer consideration of that decision until 1993. However, in accordance with the recommendation of the open-ended Working Group endorsed by the Special Committee at its 1401st meeting, on 1 June, the Committee did hear representatives of organizations concerned.

113. In accordance with the guidelines established by the General Assembly, the Special Committee was able during the year to reduce to a minimum the number of its formal meetings and to minimize the wastage resulting from cancellation of scheduled meetings.

J. Future work

114. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and subject to any further directives which it may receive from the Assembly during the latter's forty-seventh session, the Special Committee intends during 1993 to pursue its efforts in seeking the best ways and means for the implementation of the Declaration in all Territories that have not yet attained independence. In particular, the Committee will keep under review developments concerning each Territory, as well as the compliance by all States, in particular the administering Powers, with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the United Nations. On the basis of that review, the Committee will continue to submit conclusions and recommendations on the specific measures necessary to achieve the objectives set out in the Declaration and the relevant provisions of the Charter. The Committee also intends to continue its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable.

115. The Special Committee will continue to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security.

116. The Committee will continue to fulfil the responsibilities that have been entrusted to it in the context of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/181. As indicated in paragraph 78, among the activities to be undertaken in this connection is a regional seminar to be organized by the Committee in 1993 in the Pacific region to consider, in particular, issues relating to the situation in the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories in that region.

117. The Special Committee will continue to pay special attention to the specific problems of the small island Territories which constitute the overwhelming majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. Aware that, in addition to general problems facing developing countries, these island Territories also suffer handicaps arising from the interplay of such factors as their size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems, constraints in transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, weak indigenous technological capacity, the acute problem of obtaining freshwater supplies, heavy dependence on imports and a small number of commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources, migration, particularly of personnel with high-level skills, shortage of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens, the Special Committee will continue to recommend measures to facilitate a sustained and balanced growth of the fragile economies of those Territories and increased assistance in the development of all the sectors of those economies with particular emphasis on programmes of diversification. In so doing, the Committee will continue to take into consideration the recommendations of the regional seminars that the Committee has organized since 1990 (A/AC.109/1040 and Corr.1, A/AC.109/1043 and A/AC.109/1114).

118. It is the Special Committee's intention to continue to follow closely the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In so doing, the Committee, as in the past, will review the action taken or envisaged by international organizations in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. The Committee will hold further consultations and contacts with those organizations, as appropriate. The Committee will also be guided by the results of further consultations, to be held in 1993 between its Chairman and the President of the Economic and Social Council within the context of the relevant decisions of the Assembly, the Council and the Committee itself. Further, the Committee will maintain close contact with the Secretaries-General and senior officials of regional organizations (Organization of African Unity, Organization of American States, Caribbean Community, South Pacific Forum, etc.) particularly those in the Caribbean and Pacific regions where the majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are located. The objective of these contacts is to facilitate the effective implementation of the decisions of the various United Nations bodies and to foster cooperation between the specialized agencies and those regional organizations in their assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those regions.

119. The Special Committee intends to continue to review measures to bring an end to the activities of those foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration in Non-Self-Governing

Territories. Further, the Committee intends to continue its study of military activities and arrangements in those Territories.

120. In its resolutions relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, the General Assembly has repeatedly called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Special Committee by inviting United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their administration. Having regard to the constructive role played by such missions in the past, the Committee continues to attach the utmost importance to the dispatching of visiting missions as a means of collecting adequate and first-hand information on conditions in the Territories and on the wishes and aspirations of the people concerning their future status. Accordingly, the Committee will continue to seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers on the matter.

121. Taking into consideration its mandate over Western Sahara and its primary responsibility to ensure the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) for all Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in accordance with a decision it had taken at its 1397th meeting, on 23 August 1991, the Special Committee may dispatch a mission to Western Sahara during the holding of the referendum in the Territory.

122. Taking into account the views expressed by the representatives of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories at the regional seminars organized by the Special Committee since 1990, as well as the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the Committee will continue to consider, in cooperation with the administering Powers, how to intensify and improve the participation of the representatives of those Territories in the work of the Committee within the existing resources.

123. In the light of the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions concerning the pattern of conferences, and taking into consideration its experience in previous years, as well as its probable workload for next year, the Special Committee has approved a tentative programme of meetings for 1993, which it commends for approval by the Assembly.

124. The Special Committee suggests that, when the General Assembly examines the question of the implementation of the Declaration at its forty-seventh session, it may wish to take into account the various recommendations of the Committee which are reflected in the relevant chapters of the present report and, in particular, to endorse the proposals outlined in the present section in order to enable the Committee to carry out the tasks it envisages for 1993. In addition, the Committee recommends that the Assembly should renew its appeal to the administering Powers to take all necessary steps for the implementation of the Declaration and the relevant United Nations resolutions, in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territories concerned. In this connection, the Committee recommends that the Assembly should again request the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate actively in the work relating to the Territories under their respective administrations. Bearing in mind the affirmation by the Assembly that direct association of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies is an effective

means of promoting the progress of the peoples of those Territories towards a position of equality with States Members of the United Nations, the Committee also recommends that the Assembly should continue to invite the administering Powers to allow representatives of the Territories concerned to participate in the discussions in the Fourth Committee and the Special Committee of the items relating to their respective Territories. Further, the Assembly might also wish to renew its appeal to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to comply with the various requests addressed to them by the Assembly and the Security Council in their relevant resolutions.

125. The Special Committee recommends that, in approving the programme of work outlined above, the General Assembly should make adequate provision to cover the activities the Committee envisages for 1993. In this regard, the Special Committee recalls that in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 the Secretary-General has included estimates in respect of the regular programme of work of the Special Committee for 1992 and 1993 based on the level of activities approved for the year 1991, without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions. On that basis, the Special Committee understands that adequate provisions would be approved by the General Assembly. Finally, the Committee expresses the hope that the Secretary-General will continue to provide it with all the facilities and personnel necessary for the discharge of its mandate, taking into account the various tasks assigned to it by the Assembly as well as those arising from decisions taken by it during the current year.

K. Conclusion of 1992 session

126. At its 1407th meeting, on 28 July, the Special Committee decided to request the Rapporteur to prepare and submit the present report directly to the General Assembly, in accordance with established practice.

127. At the 1411th meeting, on 7 August, the Chairman made a statement on the occasion of the closing of the Special Committee's 1992 session (A/AC.109/PV.1411).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 25, document A/5238.

2/ See the reports of the Special Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its eighteenth to forty-sixth sessions. For the most recent, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/45/23); and ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/46/23).

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/46/23).

4/ Ibid., chap. I, sect. J.

5/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 8, document A/46/250, para. 30.

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/46/23), chap. I, para. 123.

7/ Ibid., para. 56.

8/ For the explanation of their non-participation, see documents A/47/86, A/42/651, annex, and Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.

9/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/46/23), chap. I, paras. 88-89.

10/ S/24471.

11/ E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/40/Rev.1.

12/ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX) of 21 December 1965, annex.

13/ E/1992/66.

Annex

LIST OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, 1992

Document No.	Title	Date
Documents issued in the general series		
A/AC.109/INF/30 and Add.1	List of delegations	23 April 1992 29 July 1992
A/AC.109/1096	Letter dated 17 October 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations addressed to the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee	20 January 1992
A/AC.109/1097	Cayman Islands (working paper)	8 April 1992
A/AC.109/1098	Pitcairn (working paper)	31 March 1992
A/AC.109/1099	Turks and Caicos Islands (working paper)	6 April 1992
A/AC.109/1100	British Virgin Islands (working paper)	6 April 1992
A/AC.109/1101	Montserrat (working paper)	7 April 1992
A/AC.109/1102	Bermuda (working paper)	30 April 1992
A/AC.109/1103	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: Bermuda	8 June 1992
A/AC.109/1104	Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in all Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in Southern Africa: Bermuda	20 July 1992
A/AC.109/1105	St. Helena (working paper)	5 May 1992

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/1106	Anguilla (working paper)	11 May 1992
A/AC.109/1107	Regional Seminar to review the special development needs of island Territories, to be held within the context of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: Guidelines and rules of procedure	11 May 1992
A/AC.109/1108	American Samoa (working paper)	28 May 1992
A/AC.109/1109	United States Virgin Islands (working paper)	18 May 1992
A/AC.109/1110	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers ...: United States Virgin Islands	13 July 1992
A/AC.109/1111	Guam (working paper)	22 May 1992
A/AC.109/1112	Tokelau (working paper)	1 June 1992
A/AC.109/1113	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers ...: Guam	5 June 1992
A/AC.109/1114	Report of the Regional Seminar to review the special development needs of island Territories, held within the context of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, at St. George's, Grenada, from 17 to 19 June 1992	6 July 1992
A/AC.109/1115	East Timor (working paper)	17 July 1992
A/AC.109/1116	Gibraltar (working paper)	21 July 1992
A/AC.109/1117	Activities of foreign economic and other interests ...: Cayman Islands	13 July 1992
A/AC.109/1118	Activities of foreign economic and other interests ...: Montserrat	13 July 1992
A/AC.109/1119	Activities of foreign economic and other interests ...: Anguilla	13 July 1992
A/AC.109/1120	New Caledonia (working paper)	24 July 1992

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/1121	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General	16 July 1992
A/AC.109/1122 and Corr.1	Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (working paper)	23 July 1992 29 July 1992
A/AC.109/1123	Activities of foreign economic and other interests ...: United States Virgin Islands	17 July 1992
A/AC.109/1124	Activities of foreign economic and other interests ...: Turks and Caicos Islands	22 July 1992
A/AC.109/1125	Western Sahara (working paper)	23 July 1992
A/AC.109/1126	Question of East Timor: letter dated 22 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee	22 July 1992
A/AC.109/1127	Question of Pitcairn: decision adopted by the Special Committee at its 1407th meeting, on 28 July 1992	29 July 1992
A/AC.109/1128	Question of St. Helena: decision adopted by the Special Committee at its 1407th meeting, on 28 July 1992	29 July 1992
A/AC.109/1129	Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands: consolidated resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1407th meeting, on 28 July 1992	30 July 1992
A/AC.109/1130	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories ...: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1407th meeting, on 28 July 1992	29 July 1992

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/1131	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1407th meeting, on 28 July 1992	29 July 1992
A/AC.109/1132	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1408th meeting, on 29 July 1992	31 July 1992
A/AC.109/1133 A/AC.109/1113*	Question of New Caledonia: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1409th meeting, on 30 July 1992	31 July 1992 28 August 1992
A/AC.109/1134	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1411th meeting, on 7 August 1992	7 August 1992
A/AC.109/1135	Activities of those foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1411th meeting, on 7 August 1992**	10 August 1992
A/AC.109/1136	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers ...: decision adopted by the Special Committee at its 1411th meeting, on 7 August 1992	7 August 1992

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

** See A/46/961 and General Assembly decision 46/474 of 14 September 1992.

Document No.	Title	Date
Documents issued in the limited series		
A/AC.109/L.1774 and Add.1	Organization of work: relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly - note by the Secretary-General	23 January 1992 22 June 1992
A/AC.109/L.1775	Organization of work: note by the Chairman	30 January 1992
A/AC.109/L.1776	Report of the Working Group	29 May 1992
A/AC.109/L.1777	Report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance: Pitcairn	2 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1778	Report of the Subcommittee ...: St. Helena	2 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1779	Report of the Subcommittee ...: American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands	8 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1780	Report of the Subcommittee ...: question of dissemination of information on decolonization	9 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1781	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories ...: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman	16 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1782	Report of the Subcommittee ...: examination of petitions	17 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1783	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: report of the Chairman	20 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1784	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: draft resolution submitted to the Chairman	17 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1785	Implementation of the Declaration ... by the specialized agencies ...: report of the Chairman	21 July 1992

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/L.1786	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): draft resolution	24 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1787	Question of New Caledonia: draft resolution	28 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1788	Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico: report of the Rapporteur	28 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1789	Activities of those foreign economic and other interests ...: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman	29 July 1992
A/AC.109/L.1790	Implementation of the Declaration ... by the specialized agencies ...: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman	4 August 1992
A/AC.109/L.1791 and Corr.1	99th report of the Working Group	4 August 1992 10 August 1992
A/AC.109/L.1792	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers ...: draft decision submitted by the Chairman	5 August 1992

CHAPTER II

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

1. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, entitled "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism", and the Plan of Action contained in the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1, annex). In the Plan of Action "aimed at ushering in, in the twenty-first century, a world free from colonialism", the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Special Committee to:

> "organize during the Decade seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions alternately, as well as at United Nations Headquarters, to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of action, with the participation of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, their elected representatives, the administering Powers, Member States, regional organizations, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts".

2. The Special Committee considered the question of holding a regional Seminar in 1992 at its 1398th and 1399th meetings, on 5 February and 4 March, respectively, and, after extensive consultations, decided that its first Seminar within the context of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism would be held in the Caribbean.

3. At its 1399th meeting, the Committee unanimously decided to accept the offer made by the Government of Grenada to host that Seminar.

4. As stated in the guidelines and rules of procedure for the Seminar (A/AC.109/1107), the primary objective of the Seminar was to address the economic and social conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Caribbean region and to identify areas in which the international community could increase and enhance its participation in programmes of assistance and development and adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to ensure the viable and sustainable development of the Territories concerned.

5. The regional Seminar was held at Saint George's, Grenada, from 17 to 19 June 1992. It was presided over by Mr. Renagi Renagi Lohia, Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations and Chairman of the Special Committee, with the participation of the following other members of the Special Committee: Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Fiji, Mali, Trinidad and Tobago and Tunisia.

6. The following representatives were appointed as officers of the Seminar: Mr. Alexander Slabý (Czechoslovakia), and Mr. Amor Ardhaoui (Tunisia) as Vice-Chairmen, Mrs. Margaret A. King-Rousseau (Trinidad and Tobago) as Rapporteur, and Mr. Charles S. Flemming (Saint Lucia) as Chairman of the Drafting Committee. The Drafting Committee was open-ended.

7. Also attending the Seminar were representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Caribbean (Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands), representatives of United Nations bodies, intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, special guests and experts. The Host Government was represented by Senator the Honourable Tillman Thomas, Minister in the Ministry of Finance, and the Honourable Denis Noel, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

8. The Seminar discussed, in particular, a wide range of economic and social issues relating to the special conditions of the small island Territories and made a set of recommendations.

9. A detailed account of the organization, proceedings, and summary of discussions and recommendations of the Seminar is contained in the report prepared by its Rapporteur (A/AC.109/1114). The report also contains the topics discussed at the Seminar, as well as the list of participants.

10. At the 1402nd meeting of the Special Committee, on 20 July, the Rapporteur of the Seminar introduced the report (A/AC.109/1114), as well as oral corrections thereto (A/AC.109/PV.1402).

11. At the same meeting, following a statement by the Chairman on the recommendations of the Seminar (A/AC.109/PV.1402), the Special Committee adopted, without objection, the report of the Seminar.